

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

I.—A BLACK JUNGLE CAT FROM KARACHI AND THE PANTHER OF SIND.

The interesting account by Mr. K. R. Eates of the occurrence of a black Panther near Karachi, published in the *Journal* Dec. 1943, pp. 291-292, reminds me of the equally interesting and equally unexpected occurrence many years ago of a black, silver-tipped Jungle Cat at the same locality. Its skin, without further particulars, was sent by Mr. W. S. Millard, at that time Secretary of the Society, to the British Museum (Natural History) and I described it in my *Mammals of British India*, 1, p. 300, 1939. Very similar specimens of this beautiful variety, recalling a 'silver-fox', were shot by St. G. Burke in the United Provinces.

May I remind some of your readers that the panthers of Sind or at all events of the Kirthar Range are of particular interest and comparatively very little known to zoologists. On the evidence of a single skin given to him by H. E. Watson, Blanford pointed out in 1888 that this panther can be distinguished at a glance from the ordinary Indian and Ceylonese panthers. This skin is in the British Museum, but the only other skin of this race in the national collection is one from Waziristan presented by Major D. G. Lowndes. A description of this race may be found on p. 233 of my volume cited above. The value that sportsmen attach to such handsome trophies as panther skins, everyone understands; but on behalf of the British Museum I should like to make an appeal for either skins or skulls, preferably both, of this animal if they are available; and I may add that damaged or 'mangry' skins not worth making into rugs or women's cloaks are just as interesting to the zoologist as perfect specimens.

ZOOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT,
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),
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R. I. POCOCK.

II.—JACKALS ATTACKING DEER IN CEYLON.

The jackals of Ceylon appear to be somewhat larger than those of S. India.

I have recently seen a remarkable cine picture of jackals pulling down and killing an adult chital in a pool in Ceylon; their tactics and methods being exactly the same as those of the Indian Wild Dogs.

R. C. MORRIS,
Lt.-Col.

III.—THE EASTERN RANGE OF THE HIMALAYAN BROWN BEAR (*URSUS ARCTOS ISABELLINUS*).

In the second volume of the *Mammals of British India*, p. 173, 1941, I stated that the range of this bear in the Himalayas was from 'the Valley of Chitral in the west to the basin of the Bhagirathi in Tehri Garhwal in the east and possibly to Nepal'; and I added a footnote suggesting that Horsfield's